

REMARKS

After entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4-9, and 11-23 are pending. Claim 3 is cancelled herein. Claim 10 was previously cancelled. Claims 21-23 are added simply to capture the viscosity limitation deleted from their respective independent claims. As discussed in detail with the Examiner and explained in further detail below, independent claims 1, 8, and 12 are herein amended to clarify that the silicone rubber composition comprises the various claimed components, to delete the Examiner's previously suggested amendment regarding the viscosity of the polymer, to further define the particular alkoxysilanes used to treat the kaolin, and to clarify that the silicone rubber composition is substantially free of reinforcing fillers. Dependent claim 4 is amended to be consistent with amended claim 1. Support for these amendments is set forth throughout the application, e.g. in at least the original claims as filed and at least in paragraphs [0010] and [0014] of the application as originally filed. As discussed with the Examiner, no new matter is herein added.

Interview Summary:

The Applicant's attorney conducted a telephonic Interview with the Examiner on January 6, 2011 to discuss the pending claim rejections. In the Interview, the Applicant's attorney discussed amending the claims, as set forth above, with the Examiner.

Claim Rejections:

Claims 1-9 and 11-20 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Woerner in view of Cornelius, et al. The Applicant respectfully submits that the instant amendments traverse all pending rejections, as discussed with the Examiner, such that the amended claims should be promptly allowed.

Conclusion:

While it is believed that no further fees are presently due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the Deposit Account No. 08-2789, in the name of Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC for any fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS PLLC

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